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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST-NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/025,790	12/26/2001	Mingzhi Li	LUN-0200	5866

7590 01/23/2007	**EXAMINER**
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	ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
1233 20th Street, NW, Suite 501		
Washington, DC 20036	2154	

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	01/23/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/025,790	LI ET AL.
Office Action Summary	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Joshua Joo	2154	

-- *The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address* --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *13 December 2006*.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1,2,4-7 and 17* is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1,2,4-7 and 17* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on *12/26/01* is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All   b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3)☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.

5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6)☐ Other: _____.

Detailed Action

Response to Amendment dated 12/13/2006

1.   Claims 1-2, 4-7, 17 are presented for examination.

Response to Arguments

2.   Applicant's arguments filed 12/13/2006 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant argued that:

3.   (1) Examiner has failed to properly establish any motivation for one of ordinary skill in the art to

combine the features of the applied art to arrive at the claimed invention.

4.   In response, the examiner recognizes that obviousness can only be established by combining or

modifying the teachings of the prior art to produce the claimed invention where there is some teaching,

suggestion, or motivation to do so found either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally

available to one of ordinary skill in the art. See *In re Fine*, 837 F.2d 1071, 5 USPQ2d 1596 (Fed. Cir.

1988) and *In re Jones*, 958 F.2d 347, 21 USPQ2d 1941 (Fed. Cir. 1992).

5.   In this case, regarding claim 1,

it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made

to combine the teachings of Guheen and Roerick because both teachings similarly deal with a system for

commercial transaction (See Guheen, Paragraph 3137 and Roerick, Paragraph 0021). The motivation for

combination is that the teachings of Roerick (Set forth in the Office Action dated 9/14/2006, Page 7,

Paragraph 11, and in this Office Action, Pages 8-9, Paragraph 12), would improve the system of Guheen

by increasing convenience, speed, and security of certain types of transactions, and allowing transaction

capability to stored value card owners (Roerick, Paragraph 0021).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made

to combine the teachings of Guheen, Roerick, and McKinney to utilize a building block architecture (Set

forth in the Office Action dated 9/14/2006, Page 7, Paragraph 12 and in this Office Action, Page 9,

Paragraph 14), with the motivation that McKinney's teachings would improve the system of Guheen and

Roerick by reducing the development efforts due to block reuse in architecture designs (McKinney,

Paragraph 0015).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made

to combine the teachings of Guheen, Roerick, McKinney, and McGarry to send a message including

terminal information data about merchandise remaining at the customer terminal slave and an amount of

currency remaining at the customer terminal host (Set forth in the Office Action dated 9/14/2006, Page 8,

Paragraph 14 and in this Office Action, Page 10, Paragraph 16) in the system of Guheen, Roerick, and

McKinney comprising networked service terminals. The motivation for combination is that the teachings

of McGarry would improve the system by allowing remote monitoring of events occurring in the

terminals and determining the status of the terminals (McGarry, Col. 2, lines 24-29; Col. 6, lines 1-5),

which would eliminate unnecessary service calls and facilitate supply routing (McGarry, Col. 1, lines 20-

26).

6.   Regarding claim 17,

the motivation for the combination of Guheen and Roerick is similarly to the motivation set forth

for claim 1.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made

to combine the teachings of Guheen, Roerick, and Schanin for a terminal to comprise a beverage

dispenser having a temperature adjuster for adjusting the temperature of the beverages contained in the

terminal (Set forth in the Office Action dated 9/14/2006, Page 15, Paragraph 31 and in this Office Action,

Page 16, Paragraph 31) in the system of Guheen and Roerick comprising of terminals that provide a plurality of services. The motivation for combination is that the teachings of Schnain would increase the functionality of terminals in the system by providing different types of products purchasable by customers (Paragraph 0030), and allowing terminals to store items requiring different temperature settings, thus meeting customer's expectation for chilled products (Paragraph 0020). ·

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Guheen, Roerick, Schanin, and Rademacher for terminals to comprise a terminal slave dispenser containing food (Set forth in the Office Action dated 9/14/2006, Page 15, Paragraph 33 and in this Office Action, Page 17, Paragraph 3) in the system of Guheen, Roerick, and Schanin comprising of terminals that provide a plurality of services. The motivation for combination is that the teachings of Rademacher would increase the functionality of terminals in the system by providing food dispensing terminals that are in common, everyday use (Rademacher, Col. 1, lines 16-20).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Guheen, Roerick, Schanin, Rademacher, and McGarry to send a message including terminal information data about merchandise remaining at the customer terminal slave and an amount of currency remaining at the customer terminal host (Set forth in the Office Action dated 9/14/2006, Page 15, Paragraph 35 and in this Office Action, Page 17, Paragraph 35) in the system of Guheen, Roerick, Schanin, and Rademacher comprising of networked service terminals. The motivation for combination is that the teachings of McGarry would improve the transaction system by allowing remote monitoring of events occurring in the terminals and determining the status of terminals (McGarry, Col. 2, lines 24-29; Col. 6, lines 1-5), which would eliminate unnecessary service calls and facilitate supply routing (McGarry, Col. 1, lines 20-26).

7.   (2) Examiner may not resort to speculation, unfounded assumptions or hindsight reconstruction to

supply deficiencies in the factual basis for the rejection.

In response, it must be recognized that any judgment on obviousness is in a sense necessarily a

reconstruction based upon hindsight reasoning. But so long as it takes into account only knowledge

which was within the level of ordinary skill at the time the claimed invention was made, and does not

include knowledge gleaned only from the applicant's disclosure, such a reconstruction is proper. See *In*

re McLaughlin, 443 F.2d 1392, 170 USPQ 209 (CCPA 1971).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

8.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness

rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in
> section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are
> such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person
> having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the
> manner in which the invention was made.

9.   Claims 1, 2, 6, and 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Guheen et al,

US Publication #2004/0107125 (Guheen hereinafter), in view of Roerick, US Publication #2002/0097715

(Roerick hereinafter), McKinney et al, US Publication #2005/0188009 (McKinney hereinafter) and

McGarry et al, US Patent #6,038,491 (McGarry hereinafter).

10.   As per claim 1, Guheen teaches substantially the invention as claimed including a network

communication system connecting a network management center and a plurality of customer terminals,

Guheen's teachings comprising:

said network management center in said system is comprised of hardware portions: a network

center server (Paragraph 0136; 3145; 3137; 3999. Central data processing center.), auxiliary PCs (Pages

9-10; Paragraph 3139; 4001. Secondary server.) or an embedded operation system, network equipment

including network cards in server (Paragraph 3139; 3141; 3145. Server communicates with other servers and users. Network cards are inherent.) and network cables (Paragraph 2876; 3025. Network cables is inherent.), and software portions (Page 8, 10. Paragraph 3145. Application software.): an information data database (Page 8; Page 13; Paragraph 2240; 2624. Information database.), management software (Page 11. Management software.), encrypt key authentication (Page 10; Paragraph 1110, Encryption, key management, and authentication.) and an information safety software package including a firewall or VPN system (Paragraph 1112; 2891; 4024. Firewall.); said customer terminal is comprised of a customer terminal host (Paragraph 3146. Terminal.) and a plurality of customer terminal slaves, (Paragraph 3145-3146. Dispense information, goods and services. Printer, dispenser, card reader.), said a customer terminal slaves are chosen according to the requirements of a local user and providing different service items and contents (Paragraph 3145. Take orders for goods and services from customers and deliver goods and services.); said network communication system is comprised of the Internet (Paragraph 3141; 4037. Internet), a wired and/or wireless local area network (Paragraph 2534. LAN.) and computer buses (Paragraph 0147. Bus.)

each terminal slave and each customer terminal host being in communication with the network management center (Paragraph 3146. Terminals communicating with remote service center.), the plurality of customer terminal slaves providing a variety of items including merchandise and information for purchase by a customer, the plurality of customer terminal slaves including a customer terminal slave information dispenser and a customer terminal merchandise dispenser (Paragraph 3146. Dispense voice and video information, printed documents, and goods. Accepting orders and payments.),

the customer terminal host having a host panel, the host panel including a touch screen display operative for displaying messages or providing information to a customer (Paragraph 3142. Touch screen), a keyboard for inputting data into the customer terminal host (Paragraph 3142. Keyboard.), a paper exit for dispensing printed paper from a printer contained with the customer terminal host

(Paragraph 3142. Printer operations.), an IC card reader or a magcard reader (Paragraph 3142. Credit card

reader.), and payment means for payment of a selected one of the variety of items purchased (Paragraph

3142; 3145. Accept payment for goods or services.), and a card receiver for receiving value storing cards

or value adding cards (Paragraph 3142; 3145. Use credit card reader or PIN number entering, i.e. credit

or ATM card. Paragraph 3154. Magnetic strip card with value.), and

> when the customer selects information as the selected one of the variety of items for purchase and

one of the payment means (Paragraph 3145. Gather information from desired goods and services.), the

customer terminal host creates an information service request and transmits the information service

request to the network management center (Paragraph 3145. Transmit information on goods and services

to the central data processing center.), the network management center extracts corresponding information

from the information database and returns the corresponding information to the customer terminal host,

the customer terminal host then performs payment settlement according to the selected payment means,

the customer terminal slave information dispenser provides the information to the customer (Paragraph

3145. Accept payment. Processing by the central data processing center to deliver goods or services in

the form of documents.),

> when the customer selects merchandise as a selected one of the variety of items for purchase, the

customer terminal host creates real time messages, the network management database sends a result to the

customer terminal host (Paragraph 3145. Receive information on desired goods and services from

customers. Sent goods or services to the data processing center for processing.), the customer terminal

host settles payment according to the selected one of the payment means, the selected merchandise is

dispensed to the customer from the customer terminal slave corresponding to the selected merchandise

(Paragraph 3145. Accept payment. Deliver documents to the customer.), and

11.   However, Guheen does not teach a network management database, electronic business database,

at least one card exit, at least one ticket exit, a small change machine for dispensing coins, the payment

means including a paper currency receiver for receiving paper currency from a customer; a plurality of

terminal server cabinets constructed in a building block architecture.

when the customer selects merchandise and one of the payments, the customer host creating real

time messages including terminal information data about merchandise remaining at the customer terminal

slave, a request for the merchandise and an amount of currency remaining at the customer terminal host,

the customer terminal slave transmits the terminal information data to the network management center for

modification of the network management database based upon the terminal information data,

when the customer selects the card receiver for receiving value adding cards as payment means,

the customer terminal host modifies value adding card information and sends the modified value adding

card information to the network management center, the network management center correspondingly

modifies data in the electronic business database and sends a result to the customer terminal host, the

customer terminal host then settles payment and the selected one of the items for purchase is dispensed to

the customer at the corresponding customer terminal slave.

12.   Roerick teaches a similar system comprising: at least one card exit (Paragraph 0260; 0267. Card

dispenser.), at least one ticket exit (Paragraph 0280. Print ticket.), a small change machine for dispensing

coins (Paragraph 0260; 0274. Coin dispenser.), a payment means including a paper currency receiver for

receiving paper currency from a customer (Paragraph 0039; 0260. Receive currency.);

when the customer selects merchandise and one of the payments, the customer host (Paragraph

0277-0278. Request service. Indicate method of payment.), creating real time messages including

terminal information data about a request for the merchandise (Paragraph 0278-280. Message sent to

transaction server. Message includes request for goods/services.), the customer terminal slave

transmitting the terminal data to the network management center for modification of the network

management database based upon the terminal information data (Paragraph 0280. Determine availability

of ticket, price, information from vendor or business. Paragraph 0283. Information is sent by the transaction server to the MFC.)

when the customer selects the card receiver for receiving value adding cards as payment means (Paragraph 0269; 0273; 081. Smart card.), the customer terminal host modifies value adding card information and sends the modified value adding card information to the network management center (Paragraph 0277; 0281. Encrypted message sent to transaction server.), the network management center correspondingly modifies data in the electronic business database (Paragraph 0281. Log transaction.) and sends a result to the customer terminal host, the customer terminal host then settles payment (Paragraph 0279. Confirm purchase of goods/services to the device. Paragraph 0280; 0282. Ticket information sent to the device.) and the selected one of the items for purchase is dispensed to the customer at the corresponding customer terminal slave (Paragraph 0280; 0283. Print ticket.).

13.   It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Guheen and Roerick because both teachings similarly deal with a system for commercial transaction comprising of implementing and managing terminal devices. Furthermore, the above teachings of Roerick would enhance the system of Guheen by increasing convenience, speed, and security for electronic transactions, and providing a plurality of items for purchase by customers while offering a plurality of payment options (Paragraph 0021).

14.   Guheen and Roerick still do not specifically teach of a construction in a building block architecture and creating a real time terminal messages including terminal information data about merchandise stored and available to the customer.

McKinney teaches of a server utilizing a building block architecture (Paragraph 0015).

15.   It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Guheen, Roerick, and McKinney to utilize a building block architecture,

which would improve the system of Guheen and Roerick by reducing the development efforts due to

block reuse in designs (Paragraph 0015).

16.   Guheen, Roerick, and McKinney still do not specifically teach of creating a real time terminal

messages including terminal information data about merchandise stored and available to the customer.

McGarry teaches a similar system comprising: sending a message including terminal information

data about merchandise remaining at the customer terminal slave and an amount of currency remaining at

the customer terminal host at any given time (Col. 6, lines 1-5, 32-41; Col. 8, lines 36-42.).

17.   It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made

to combine the teachings of Guheen, Roerick, McKinney, and McGarry to send a message including

terminal information data about merchandise remaining at the customer terminal slave and an amount of

currency remaining at the customer terminal host in the system of Guheen, Roerick, and McKinney

comprising of plurality of terminals. The teachings of Guheen would improve the system by allowing

remote monitoring of events occurring in the terminals and determining the status of terminals (McGarry,

Col. 2, lines 24-29; Col. 6, lines 1-5), which would eliminate unnecessary service calls and facilitate

supply routing (McGarry, Col. 1, lines 20-26).

18.   As per claim 2, Guheen teaches the network system based self-help service according to claim 1,

characterized in that said information data database is comprised of a database storing all kinds of

information collected by the network based self-help system for the local public and a dedicated Internet

web site (Paragraph 3136; 3145. Server stores information to provides services to customers and clients.

Paragraph 3477; 3836. Web page to access data on the network.).

19.   As per claim 6, Guheen teaches of providing a dispenser for providing voice, video, and printed

documents (Paragraph 3145). However, Guheen does not teach the network system based self-help

service according to claim 4, characterized in that the card dispenser in the said customer terminal slaves

is a ticket dispenser, a card dispenser, or a combination of them.

Roerick teaches a terminal comprising a ticket dispenser (Paragraph 0280. Print ticket).

20.   It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made

to combine the teachings of Guheen, Roerick, McKinney, and McGarry to provide terminals capable of

dispensing tickets in the system, which would improve the capabilities of the terminals by providing

additional services to customers.

21.   As per claim 7, Guheen teaches the network system based self-help service according to claim 1,

characterized in that said information service machine is an information query machine, a video telephone

set, a printer or a photocopier, or a combination of them (Paragraph 3146. Printer.).

22.   Claims 4-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Guheen, Roerick,

McKinney, and McGarry, in view of Rademacher, US Patent #5,450,938 (Rademacher hereinafter).

23.   As per claim 4, Guheen teaches of providing a goods and services. However, Guheen does not

specifically teach the network system based self-help service according to claim 1, characterized in that

said customer terminal slaves are comprised of 2-6 cabinets of dispensers or card dispensers or

information service machines constructed by way of building block architecture, said customer terminal

slaves may provide 6-30 service items.

Rademacher teaches a vending machine comprising dispensers, wherein each dispenser serves up

a merchandise (Col 5, lines 9-18).

24.   Even though, Rademacher does not explicitly teach of 2-6 cabinets of dispensers and 6-30 service

items, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art that a vending machine comprising

dispensers, wherein each dispenser services one merchandise can comprise 2-6 cabinets and 6-30 service

items. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made

to combine the teachings of Guheen, Roerick, McKinney, McGarry, and Rademacher for a machine to

comprise dispensers and a plurality of merchandise, which would improve the system by providing an

increased selection of products, which would improve the system's functionality.

25.   As per claim 5, Guheen, Roerick, McKinney, McGarry, and Rademacher taught the network

system based self-help service according to claim 4. Guheen further teaches the system characterized in

that said dispensers in said customer terminal slaves are food dispensers, beverage dispensers or general

merchandise dispensers (Paragraph 3145; 3146. Dispense good and services.).

26.   Claim 17 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Guheen, in view of

Roerick, Schanin, US Publication #2004/0000154 (Schanin hereinafter), Rademacher, and McGarry.

27.   As per claim 17, Guheen teaches substantially the invention as claimed including a network

communication system connecting a network management center and a plurality of customer terminals,

Guheen's teachings comprising:

        a network management center (Paragraph 3145. Central data processing center.); and

        a plurality of customer terminals in communication with the network management center via a

network communication system (Paragraph 3142; 3145. Terminals.),

        the network management center including a network center server operative with an information

data database (Paragraph 2608; 2624. Information database.);

each one of the plurality of customer terminals including a customer terminal host and a plurality

of computer terminal slaves in communication with the customer terminal host (Paragraph 3142. Printer,

touch screen, credit card reader.), each customer terminal host and each customer terminal slave being in

communication with the network management center (Paragraph 3145. Terminals linked to central data

processing center.), the plurality of customer terminal slaves providing a variety of items including

merchandise and information for purchase by a customer (Paragraph 3145. Goods or services in the form

of documents.), the plurality of customer terminal slaves including a customer terminal slave information

dispenser (Paragraph 3145; 3145. Dispense documents.),

the customer terminal host having a host panel, the host panel including a touch screen display

operative for displaying messages or providing information to a customer (Paragraph 3142. Touch

screen), a keyboard for inputting data into the customer terminal host (Paragraph 3142. Keyboard.), a

paper exit for dispensing printed paper from a printer contained with the customer terminal host

(Paragraph 3142. Printer operations.), an IC card reader or a magcard reader (Paragraph 3142. Credit card

reader.), and payment means for payment of a selected one of the variety of items purchased (Paragraph

3142; 3145. Accept payment for goods or services.), and a card receiver for receiving value storing cards

or value adding cards (Paragraph 3142; 3145. Use credit card reader or PIN number entering, i.e. credit

or ATM card. Paragraph 3154. Magnetic strip card with value.), and

when the customer selects information as the selected one of the variety of items for purchase and

one of the payment means (Paragraph 3145. Gather information from desired goods and services.), the

customer terminal host creates an information service request and transmits the information service

request to the network management center (Paragraph 3145. Transmit information on goods and services

to the central data processing center.), the network management center extracts corresponding information

from the information database and returns the corresponding information to the customer terminal host,

the customer terminal host then performs payment settlement according to the selected payment means,

the customer terminal slave information dispenser provides the information to the customer (Paragraph

3145. Accept payment. Processing by the central data processing center and to deliver goods or services

in the form of documents.),

when the customer selects merchandise as a selected one of the variety of items for purchase, the

customer terminal host creates real time messages, the network management database sends a result to the

customer terminal host (Paragraph 3145. Receive information on desired goods and services from

customers. Sent goods or services to the data processing center for processing.), the customer terminal

host settles payment according to the selected one of the payment means, the selected merchandise is

dispensed to the customer from the customer terminal slave corresponding to the selected merchandise

(Paragraph 3145. Accept payment. Deliver documents to the customer.).

28.   However, Guheen does not specifically teach a system comprising: a network management

database, and an electronic business database, a customer terminal slave food dispenser containing food, a

customer terminal slave beverage dispenser containing beverages and customer terminal slave card or

ticket dispenser, at least the customer terminal slave beverage dispenser having a temperature adjuster for

adjusting temperature of the beverages contained in the customer terminal slave beverage dispenser,

when the customer selects merchandise and one of the payments, the customer host creating real

time messages including terminal information data about merchandise remaining at the customer terminal

slave, a request for the merchandise and an amount of currency remaining at the customer terminal host,

the customer terminal slave transmits the terminal information data to the network management center for

modification of the network management database based upon the terminal information data,

when the customer selects the card receiver for receiving value adding cards as payment means,

the customer terminal host modifies value adding card information and sends the modified value adding

card information to the network management center, the network management center correspondingly

modifies data in the electronic business database and sends a result to the customer terminal host, the

customer terminal host then settles payment and the selected one of the items for purchase is dispensed to the customer at the corresponding customer terminal slave.

29.   Roerick teaches a similar system comprising: at least one card exit (Paragraph 0260; 0267. Card dispenser.), at least one ticket exit (Paragraph 0280. Print ticket.), a small change machine for dispensing coins (Paragraph 0260; 0274. Coin dispenser.), the payment means including a paper currency receiver for receiving paper currency from a customer (Paragraph 0039; 0260. Receive currency.);

when the customer selects merchandise and one of the payments, the customer host (Paragraph 0277-0278. Request service. Indicate method of payment.), creating real time messages including terminal information data about a request for the merchandise (Paragraph 0278-280. Message sent to transaction server. Message includes request for goods/services.), the customer terminal slave transmitting the terminal data to the network management center for modification of the network management database based upon the terminal information data (Paragraph 0280. Determine availability of ticket, price, information from vendor or business. Paragraph 0283. Information is sent by the transaction server to the MFC.)

when the customer selects the card receiver for receiving value adding cards as payment means (Paragraph 0269; 0273; 081. Smart card.), the customer terminal host modifies value adding card information and sends the modified value adding card information to the network management center (Paragraph 0277; 0281. Encrypted message sent to transaction server.), the network management center correspondingly modifies data in the electronic business database (Paragraph 0281. Log transaction.) and sends a result to the customer terminal host, the customer terminal host then settles payment (Paragraph 0279. Confirm purchase of goods/services to the device. Paragraph 0280; 0282. Ticket information sent to the device.) and the selected one of the items for purchase is dispensed to the customer at the corresponding customer terminal slave (Paragraph 0280; 0283. Print ticket.).

30.   It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made

to combine the teachings of Guheen and Roerick because both teachings similarly deal with a system for

commercial transaction comprising of implementing and managing terminal devices. Furthermore, the

above teachings of Roerick would enhance the system of Guheen by increasing convenience, speed, and

security for electronic transactions, and providing a plurality of items for purchase by customers while

offering a plurality of payment options (Paragraph 0021).

31.   Guheen and Roerick still do not specifically teach of a customer terminal slave food dispenser

containing food, a customer terminal slave beverage dispenser containing beverages, at least the customer

terminal slave beverage dispenser having a temperature adjuster for adjusting temperature of the

beverages contained in the customer terminal, and a customer terminal host that creates real time

messages including terminal information data about merchandise stored and available to the customer at

the customer terminal slave.

        Schanin teaches a similar system of a terminal comprising a beverage dispenser has a temperature

adjuster for adjusting temperature of the beverages contained in the customer terminal (Paragraph 0030;

0034-0035).

32.   It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made

to combine the teachings of Guheen, Roerick, and Schanin for a terminal to comprise a beverage

dispenser having a temperature adjuster for adjusting the temperature of the beverages contained in the

terminal in the system of Guheen and Roerick comprising of a plurality of terminals. The teachings of

Schanin would improve the system by increase the functionality of terminals in the system by providing

different types of products available for purchase by customers (Paragraph 0030), and allowing terminals

to store items requiring different temperature settings, thus meeting customer's expectation for chilled

products (Paragraph 0020).

33.   Guheen, Roerick, and Schanin still do not specifically teach of a customer terminal slave food

dispenser containing food, and a customer terminal host that creates real time messages including

terminal information data about merchandise stored and available to the customer at the customer

terminal slave.

Rademacher teaches a similar system of a terminal comprising a terminal slave dispenser

containing food (Col 5, lines 4-14).

34.   It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made

to combine the teachings of Guheen, Roerick, Schanin, and Rademacher for a terminal to comprise a

terminal slave dispenser containing food in the transaction system of Guheen, Roerick, and Schanin

comprising of terminals that provide a plurality of services.   The teachings of Rademacher would

increase the functionality of terminals in the system by providing food dispensing terminals that are in

common, everyday use (Rademacher, Col. 1, lines 16-20).

35.   Guheen, Roerick, Schanin, and Rademacher still do not specifically teach of a customer terminal

host that creates real time messages including terminal information data about merchandise stored and

available to the customer at the customer terminal slave.

McGarry teaches a similar system comprising of sending a message including terminal

information data about merchandise remaining at the customer terminal slave and an amount of currency

remaining at the customer terminal host at any given time (Col 6, lines 1-5, 32-41. Transmit vending

machine product inventory and amount of currency.),

36.   It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made

to combine the teachings of Guheen, Roerick, Schanin, Rademacher, and McGarry to send a message

including terminal information data about merchandise remaining at the customer terminal slave and an

amount of currency remaining at the customer terminal host at any given time in the system of Guheen,

Roerick, Schanin, Rademacher comprising of networked terminals. The teachings of McGarry would

improve the system by allowing remote monitoring of events occurring in the terminals and determining

the status of terminals (McGarry, Col. 2, lines 24-29; Col. 6, lines 1-5), which would eliminate

unnecessary service calls and facilitate supply routing (McGarry, Col. 1, lines 20-26).

Conclusion

37.   **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set

forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from

the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing

date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH

shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action

is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of

the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX

MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

38.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should

be directed to Joshua Joo whose telephone number is 571 272-3966. The examiner can normally be

reached on Monday to Friday 7 to 4.

39.   If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor,

Nathan J. Flynn can be reached on 571 272-1915. The fax phone number for the organization where this

application or proceeding is assigned 571-273-8300.

40.   Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application

Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained

from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available

through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair

direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic

Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

NATHAN J. FLYNN
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800

January 11, 2007
JJ